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*LIMITED TO MATTERS
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November 1, 2001

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER: (202) 371-2585

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Art Unit: 1615

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/933,709; Filed: August 22, 2001
For: **Method of Producing Vitamin Powders**
Inventors: Morris *et al.*
Our Ref: 1533.0520001/SRL/CMB

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Information Disclosure Statement (in duplicate);
2. Form PTO-1449 (4 pages);
3. Copies of references AA1, AB1, AC1, AD1, AE1, AF1, AG1, AH1, AI1, AJ1, AK1, AL1, AR1, AS1, AA2, AB2, AC2, AD2, AE2, AF2, AG2, AH2, AI2, AJ2, AK2, AA3, AB3, AC3, AD3, AE3, AF3, AG3, AH3, AI3, AJ3, AK3, AA4, AB4, and AC4; and
4. A return postcard.

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

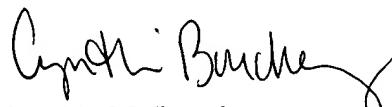
Commissioner for Patents
November 1, 2001
Page 2

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Cynthia M. Bouchez
Agent for Applicants
Registration No. 47,438

Enclosures

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:
Morris *et al.*
Appl. No. 09/933,709
Filed: August 22, 2001
For: **Method of Producing Vitamin Powders**

Confirmation No. 6249
Art Unit: 1615
Examiner: *To be assigned*
Atty. Docket: 1533.0520001/SRL/CMB

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3), Applicants' undersigned representative submits the following, in regards to non-English language document AL1 cited on Form PTO 1449:

Document AL1 is in a foreign language. An English language equivalent of document AL1 is attached as document AS1. A copy of an English language search report issued by a foreign Patent Office is attached to satisfy Applicants' duty to provide a concise statement of relevance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3). (1135 OG 14, column 1, second paragraph, Feb. 4, 1992).

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith.

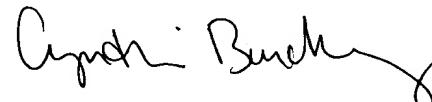
This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No statement or fee is required.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this pleading is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



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Agent for Applicants
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Date: November 1, 2001

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